MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

27 OCTOBER 1982

Iran-Iraq War

Military Situation -- More than 20 people were killed and over 100 were wounded when Iraqi planes attacked the city of Dezful with air-to-surface missiles, Tehran radio reported. However, a related IRNA report said the strike was by long-range surface-to-surface missiles. An Iraqi military spokesman cited by INA said the attack was in retaliation for Iranian shelling of Iraqi cities.

Meanwhile, Iranian and Iraqi military communiques carried by Tehran radio and INA respectively reported further exchanges of fire along the battlefronts. The Iranian communique claimed that Iranian artillery inflicted heavy casualties on Iraqi garrisons in Qazanfar and Sayyid Sadiq.

Iraqi Secret Weapon -- The Iraqi charge d'affaires in Denmark announced that Iraq will use a new "secret weapon" for mass destruction if the Iranians launch a major offensive on the border, Monte Carlo radio reported. The weapon can kill hundreds of thousands but is not "nuclear, chemical or internationally prohibited," he added.

Iraq on Mediation -- An Iraqi Foreign Ministry spokesman reemphasized Iraq's demand that the Islamic Conference Organization's Good Offices Committee pass judgment on the stand of both countries toward the committee's proposals, INA reported. Iraq's acceptance and Iran's rejection of the committee's proposals help identify which side insists on aggression to achieve illegal aims at the expense of the other, the spokesman affirmed. He also criticized the Good Offices Committee for presenting the current situation optimistically, which "does not necessarily help the peace issue." In the same report, INA publicized the full text of the committee's latest proposals.

Lebanon

Military Situation -- The Syrians have introduced new SAM batteries into the Al-Biqa' Valley, and a Soviet military delegation has inspected Syrian positions in the area, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. The clandestine Radio Free Lebanon likewise said the Syrians have established a SAM-8 battery west of Zahlah. Meanwhile, the IDF transferred control of two villages in the Ash-Shuf mountains to the Lebanese Army and moved tanks from the 'Alayh and B'abda area to the south, according to Jerusalem and Beirut radio reports. IDF soldiers combed the Sidon area after an Israeli soldier was injured by a grenade, IDF radio reported. Beirut radio said the Israelis sealed off the city.

PLO Leaders in Beirut -- Some of the Palestinian leaders deported from Beirut have started to reappear in Lebanon, Voice of Lebanon radio reported, citing as an example the presence of a leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine at a Communist Party ceremony in Beirut.

Government Statement -- The Cabinet approved a draft government statement which will be submitted to the Chamber of Deputies for approval on a confidence vote, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. The statement focuses on the withdrawal of foreign forces, the establishment of the government's authority and the imposition of full national sovereignty over Lebanese territory.

Israel

Begin on Al-Jumayyil, Withdrawals -- While Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil's "negative position" is evident in public, the Lebanese president sounds more moderate in private talks, Prime Minister Menahem Begin told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee in remarks reported by Jerusalem radio. When Begin spoke about the mutual

withdrawal of Israeli and Syrian forces from Lebanon, he did not demand the prior withdrawal of the PLO fighters and committee members therefore received the impression that Israel has waived this demand, the radio added.

West Bank -- One Arab youth was killed and two others were injured when Israelis fired to disperse stone-throwing rioters in Nabulus, IDF radio reported. Meanwhile, MA'ARIV said a call for a general strike to mark the 40th day after the Beirut massacre has been issued in Judaea and Samaria.

Egyptian-Israeli Relations

Egyptian Report -- According to the London-based weekly magazine AL-MAJALLAH, President Husni Mubarak has received an "important" report from a committee of Egyptian Foreign Ministry ambassadors who prepared a "thorough" evaluation of Egyptian-Israeli relations. The report says Israeli policy has not changed in the 5 years since the late President Anwar as-Sadat visited Jerusalem and Israel has resorted to "devious methods" and "misinterpretations" in order to force the other party to make concessions. The report claims that these actions have led to the halting of the autonomy talks and that Israel's ulterior motive is to maintain and widen the differences. However, Israeli Prime Minister Begin told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that there is "no change" in relations between Israel and Egypt and that conditions of the peace treaty are being kept, Jerusalem television reported. Jerusalem radio reported that the Israeli Cabinet is scheduled to discuss Egyptian relations on 27 October.

Tabah Issue -- Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali met with U.S. Ambassador in Cairo Alfred Atherton to discuss the Egyptian position on the Tabah issue, Cairo radio reported. 'Ali gave Atherton a message for U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz concerning Egypt's call for resuming negotiations on Tabah. Citing political sources in Jerusalem, the Tel Aviv daily HA'ARETZ reported that "no practical discussions" either on Tabah or on autonomy can be held until the Egyptian ambassador returns to Israel.

Border Patrols -- Jerusalem television reported that Egypt has recently increased its border patrols, especially in the Rafah area, as a result of official Israeli complaints. The reports stated that senior Israeli security and military sources believe that "terrorist" organizations are planning to increase their border activities and that the Egyptians are not using all the means at their disposal to foil these activities.

Libya

Libyan leader Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and Chairman of the PCP State Council Zhao Ziyang held their first round of official talks in Beijing on 26 October, JANA reported. The Libyan secretary for foreign liaison, the PRC foreign minister as well as various technical and economic representatives from both sides were present; a comprehensive review of bilateral relations was made during the talks. Two technical committees met that evening at the Great Hall of the People in order to establish working programs.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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FOREIGN MINISTER DOST RETURNS FROM UN SESSION

LD251914 Kabul in Pashto and Dari to Europe 1730 GMT 25 Oct 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Shah Mohammad Dost, head of a Afghan delegation, today arrived in Kabul after attending the 37th annual session of the United Nations. He was welcomed at Kabul airport by Commerce Minister Mohammad Khan Jalalar and some officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

KARMAL SPEECH TO HERAT INFANTRY DIVISION

LD241512 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1630 GMT 23 Oct 82

[Speech by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, delivered at a meeting of officers, men and personnel of the Herat 17th Infantry Division on 21 October -- recorded]

[Excerpts] Dear heroic comrades: It is a pleasure that today I meet with you fighters of the path of the April Revolution, you who struggle against the sworn enemies of the freedom-loving people of Afghanistan. [applause]

Allow me to speak on behalf of the PDPA Central Committee, the DRA Government and myself. I would like to convey to you -- troops, NCO's and brave officers of the homeland, courageous patriots of the 17th Infantry Division -- with full satisfaction, warm and revolutionary greetings.

You have fought, as other proud personnel of our young Democratic Republic Army, in an active and heroic manner against the counterrevolutionary bands. You have fulfilled, are fulfilling and will fulfill your glorious and proud part in the task of crushing the enemies of your national government.

Most of the officers, NCO's and men who are present in this hall have received badges and state medals for bravery, manhood and devotion, which you have displayed in the bloody battles against the counterrevolutionary bands. Many of you have been promoted to higher military ranks. These promotions are a result of the faithfulness and honesty of our army personnel to the homeland and to the just cause of the glorious April Revolution and the great aspirations of the PDPA.

Comrades, the personnel of our heroic army, like other noble citizens of the country, under the leadership of the PDPA Central Committee, Revolutionary Council and the DRA Government, have strived and are striving to gradually normalize the economic and military situation inside the country. We should point out that the general situation is normalizing and recent events are satisfactory evidence for this claim.

For example, we can mention the repelling of large counterrevolutionary bands' attacks and the willingness of most rebel bands to negotiate with representatives of the popular government. Every day more and more of those people, who are deceived by the poisonous propaganda [words indistinct].

By realizing the objectives and duties of the April Revolution, they are (?leaving) the counterrevolution and returning to peaceful life. Although up to now this process has been slow, it is moving ahead and expanding. In the near future the day will come when all toilers of our homeland will realize and believe in the just cause for which our party and all the patriotic and aware citizens of Afghanistan are fighting and support the party's policies and its measures to improve the living standards of the masses and the economic and cultural development of the DRA. [applause]

Despite the positive and specific results that have been achieved in the current year, the political and military situation in the country has not yet settled completely and the conspiracies of the international imperialism are basic obstacles to its normalization. The aggressive imperialist forces, headed by U.S. imperialism, do not spare any effort to prevent the progress on the masses' path of social development.

In Afghanistan, imperialism has not abandoned its attempts to change the direction of events to their benefit. They want to increase tension in the world further and they use the so-called Afghanistan problem as a pretext for this. International imperialism, headed by U.S. imperialism and its criminal partners in Islambad and Beijing, have waged and continue to wage undeclared war against our beloved country. [Word indistinct] and naive people and try to instigate them against the popular government.

With the help of these dark forces, the destructive activities of criminal bands and [word indistinct] are continuing in the sacred land of Afghanistan. These bands [word indistinct] demolishing schools, mosques and hospitals and because of their [word indistinct] with knowledge are murdering noble and patriotic teachers and clergy. These dark forces of reaction have directed the sharp edge of their criminal action against members of the PDPA, Democratic Youth Organization of Afghanistan [DYOA] representatives of the government, popular intellectuals and military personnel. Their main objective is to keep people in permanent fear and panic, create disbelief among the people of the DRA Government and its ability to maintain peaceful working conditions for the toilers and revitalize feudal regimes and the rule of exploiters. The strivings of the enemies of the revolution are in vain and doomed to certain defeat. [applause]

Despite the undeclared war of imperialism the national economy of our country is continuing its growth. In the current year the production of basic commodities, including the extraction of gas and coal, has increased, and some taken measures have resulted in a rise in production of some kinds of agricultural products.

It should be mentioned that without the disinterested and fraternal assistance of the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community and the consolidation of [word indistinct] friendship and internationalist solidarity with the people of those countries, the achievement of these successes would have been impossible. As a result of the Soviet Union's assistance, our national economy and science and technology have developed. Our armed forces have (?consolidated) and raised their combat capability. Our friendhsip and solidarity with the Soviet Union and the countries of the socialist community reliably guarantee the freedom and sovereignty of Afghnistan, the complete victory of the April Revolution and [words indistinct] in our country, which is an important condition for the development and prosperity of all of our country's tribes and nationalities. [applause]

I once again express my gratitude for the all-round and disinterested assistance of our great northern neighbor, the great Soviet Union. [applause]

Comrades, troops, officers and NCO's, our enemies will not lay down their weapons until they realize their resistance is in vain and how great our force is. We now have this force. We have at our disposal a regular army, a new army capable of reliably defending the gains of the revolution.

The political awareness of the officers and heroic and militant NCO's, their honesty to the homeland, people and party and their faithfulness to the military service and aspirations of the April Revolution, as well as to the unity of the army, have increased and will increase our energy and strength. Therefore, it is the duty of the commanders, political workers and party organizations to organize broader work in a systematic and orderly manner to further enhance the troops' level of awareness.

The important duties for the improvement and perfection of the combatant capability of the units raise serious demands for the acquisition of general knowledge by armed forces personnel. The army should be transformed not only into a school of political maturity, but a school to eradicate illiteracy in all troops.

The power of the army is in the presence of experienced (?military) cadres who have high political (?awareness). Officers who are members of the PDPA or the DYOA are the militant nucleus of our (?army cadres). More than 75 percent of army officers are full or candidate members of the PDPA or are members of the DYOA.

Today, our units and companies are equipped with technical machinery and modern weapons. These powerful weapons can only bring the desired effect on the enemy when used by reliable and powerful hands. Therefore, it is the duty of each soldier, NCO and officer to skillfully learn the techniques of using their weapons and (?equipment) effectively and to make use of its (?combat capability) for [word indistinct] democracy.

In conditions where our army is fighting against counterrevolutionary bands, they should have very good order, complete obedience and party and military discipline. The smallest negligence, carelessness or disobedience carry serious and fatal results. The homeland's interests demands that each soldier (?obey) all orders of the General Conscription Law, military regulations and guidelines, military [word indistinct] and orders of the commanders and officers. Discipline is characteristic of the patriotism, political awareness and (?manhood) of a soldier.

Indestructible friendship and combatant cooperation with the personnel of the limited contingents of the Soviet Union have made our army more powerful. This friendship has been the brightest symbol of the great friendship of our peoples, and had forever and [words indistinct] our peoples. [applause]

The preparations for celebrating the anniversary of the establishment of the USSR will make better ground for the further expansion of the all-round friendship and brotherhood between the parties, people and armies of both countries. According to the resolution of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo, commanders, political organs, party and youth organizations and all military collectives should (?prepare) for this grand celebration and for the further education of the personnel with high patriotic and internationalist spirit and endless loyalty to the [word indistinct] Afghan-Soviet friendship. [applause]

The PDPA Central Committee also has full confidence that all heroic personnel of the 17th Infantry Division will serve their homeland with honesty and dedication and without fear and will fight against the counterrevolutionary elements to fulfill their significant part in the final victory of the April Revolution and its new development stage. [applause]

Long live the glorious April Revolution! Long live the PDPA, the party of working class and all toilers of Afghanistan! Pride to the DRA Armed Forces! [applause]

AFP: AFGHAN REBELS REPULSE SOVIET OFFENSIVE

OW260028 Hong Kong AFP in English 2348 GMT 25 Oct 82

[Excerpt] Islamabad, Oct 25 (AFP) -- Afghan resistance fighters pushed back a new Soviet offensive last week against rebel positions in the Paghman Valley, about 20 kms (12 miles) northwest of Kabul, a communique published by Afghan insurgents said today.

The statement, released by the mujahidin alliance based in Peshawar, said the attack occurred 5 days ago, when several hundred Soviet tanks and armored vehicles, backed up by mortars and MiG-23 fighters, pounded rebel positions around the ancient summer residence of the Afghan kings.

It said government troops suffered heavy human and material losses when the resistance counter-attacked, using arms brought in by deserters from the Afghan Army.

SIKH TEMPLE GUARD SHOT BY POLICE IN AMRITSAR

BK261621 Hong Kong AFP in English 1322 GMT 26 Oct 82

[Text] New Delhi, Oct 26 (AFP) -- A Sikh temple guard was shot and wounded by the police today in Amritsar, Punjab, apparently sparking renewed tension in the northwestern state, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported.

The guard, known as Nihang in his community, was taken to hospital and his condition was described as "serious."

PTI report said Nihang was shot when he attacked a police officer at the temple area with his khanda (sharp-edged weapon). The police officer than fired three shots.

According to the report, Nihang was wanted in a case filed against him for attacking a magistrate and a police officer on October 18.

Tension began to subside in the city on October 19 when the authorities issued a shoot at sight order against "miscreants" following clashes between Sikhs and police on the previous day in which one Sikh follower of the pro-autonomy Akali faction was shot dead and several others injured.

A total of 59 Sikhs lost their lives since the Akalis intensified their agitation in early August in violent incidents. Five Sikhs were killed in police firing when they tried to attack the Parliament house two weeks ago.

PATROLS INTENSIFIED IN AMRITSAR AFTER VIOLENCE

BK270850 Hong Kong AFP in English 0835 GMT 26 Oct 82

[Excerpts] New Delhi, Oct 27 (AFP) -- Fresh contingents of para military forces were out in the Sikh holy city of Amritsar today as the Sikh demand for autonomy for their Punjab state took a new turn with yesterday's grenade attack on a Hindu festival procession and the killing of a traditional Sikh warrior by the police.

Officials reached by telephone from here said the city had been tense since dawn as local Hindus were preparing a procession to mark the conclusion of a major Hindu festival there.

"We are keeping our fingers crossed, but have left nothing to chance," the official said.

Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency reports today said patrolling by the para military and state armed police had been intensified following fear of further trouble in the 500,000-strong city.

Meanwhile, independent observers here said the grenade attack has brought into sharp focus the growing tension between the Sikhs and the Hindus in Punjab, which has a total population of 16.8 million.

Federal Interior Ministry sources here said the administration in Punjab run by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Congress (I) Party had been categorically told to take measures to stop the Sikh stir from taking the shape of a communal confrontation between the Sikhs and the Hindus.

Meanwhile, efforts were underway today to bring the Sikh leaders back to the negotiating table to hammer out the Sikh issue.

Yesterday's death of the Sikh warrior brought the death toll of the Sikhs since they intensified their protest in August to 60, a Sikh spokesman here said.

Over 30,000 Sikhs were arrested, but later released as part of a goodwill gesture by Mrs Gandhi.

1 KILLED, 50 INJURED IN AMRITSAR EXPLOSION

BK270300 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0244 GMT 27 Oct 82

[Text] In Amritsar, one person was killed and about 50 injured when a handgrenade burst in a bazaar near the (Ghantaghar Chowk) yesterday evening. An official spokesman told All-India Radio Chandigarh correspondent that of the two handgrenades thrown by some unidentified persons, only one exploded.

The injured were rushed to the hospital. The injured include a superintendent of police, an executive magistrate and 18 members of state police and the central reserve police.

Earlier in the evening, one person who attacked a police official on duty with a sharp-edged weapon was seriously injured when the official fired at him in self-defense. The assailant later succumbed to his injuries in the hospital.

The spokesman said the situation in the city is fully under control. However, police patrolling in the city has been further intensified.

AFP Report

BK261715 Hong Kong AFP in English 1706 GMT 26 Oct 82

[Text] New Delhi, Oct. (AFP) -- Within hours after a Sikh temple guard was killed in a police firing, a powerful bomb blast took place tonight outside the Sikh "golden temple" in Amritsar in the Punjab state, leaving about 40 wounded, many seriously.

The first Press Trust of India (PTI) reports from Amritsar, about 400 km (250 miles), on the border with Pakistan, had said that "many policemen were among the dead."

The agency said high tension prevailed in the town when armed groups of people belonging to two communities, apparently Sikhs and Hindus, gathered at several localities. Police fired a few shots in the air to scare away the rival groups.

Police and the para-military Border Security Force (BSF) and Central Reserve Police (CRP) have sealed the area where the explosion took place, PTI added.

Today's incidents have taken place even as behind-the-scenes activities were in full swing in preparation for formal talks between Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's emissary and former Foreign Minister Swaran Singh, himself a Sikh, and the specially set up committee of the Sikhs' "Akali Dal" party on the community's continuing mass stir for "greater autonomy" to the predominantly Sikh Punjab and their other demands.

The earlier incident of police firing, in which the "nihang" (Sikh guard) was critically wounded and was later reported dead in hospital, also took place in Amritsar. Police were quoted as saying that a senior police official opened fire when he was attacked by the nihang armed with their traditional long sword. The incident occurred as a police party went to arrest the victim, Balwant Singh, who was dancing with a sword in his hand. He was wanted by police in connection with a couple of similar incidents earlier in which he had attacked two officials.

Citizens Condemn Blast

BK270911 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 27 Oct 82

[Text] In a joint statement, leading citizens of Amritsar have strongly condemned the grenade explosion incident last night which resulted in the death of one person and injuries to 50 others.

They urged the people to maintain and strengthen the forces of traditional peace and communal harmony in the city. They cautioned the people against designs of a few miscreants who, they said, were out to disturb the atmosphere of peace and amity.
The signatories for the statement include (Dr Baldev Prakash), president, Bharatiya Janata Party, Punjab; (Satyapal Dang), president of All-India Communist Party; (Paduman Singh), general secretary, All-India Communist Party; (Kirpal Singh), president, chief, Khalsa Diwan; and R.L. Bhatia, member of Parliament.

Our correspondent (Amrik Singh Wig) reports that the situation in the city is slightly tense but under control. A close watch is being maintained to avoid any untoward incident. No untoward incident has been reported since last night. A flag march by a company of Border Security Force jawans [soldiers] was staged in the localities affected by yesterday's incident to restore confidence among the people.

President of the Akali Dal, Longowal, Harchand Singh Longowal, has expressed sorrow over yesterday's incident.

GANDHI SPEAKS ON NATION BUILDING IN NAGALAND

BK220933 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 22 Oct 82

[Text] Mrs Indira Gandhi has asserted that only a bigger and stronger country can make the development process meaningful and give protection to all sections of people. She was addressing a public meeting in Kohima on the second day of her 3-day visit to Nagaland. Mrs Gandhi said that there should be a strong center to guard against evil designs of any foreign power. Mrs Gandhi urged the people of Nagaland to involve themselves freely in the nation-building process. She said the government on its part was taking into account their needs and aspirations and is doing its best for the state's development to catch up with others. Mrs Gandhi said the center has taken steps to raise the standards of the people irrespective of the region they hail from. But it is also aware that the hilly and less accessible areas needed special attention. Therefore, she said, more funds have been allocated in the plan for developing these areas.

Mrs Gandhi pointed out that the strength of a country lies in how people from different regions following different cultures come together to take the country forward. She referred to Nagaland having the culture of its own and Christianity being its dominant religion. Mrs Gandhi said despite these differences, the people of Nagaland are part of a bigger unit. She assured the people of the state that her government wants to preserve the identity and heritage of the people of Nagaland. Mrs Gandhi also had a word of praise for the defense forces who are doing their job in the northeastern region.

UN REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTS ON KAMPUCHEA VOTE

BK261307 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 26 Oct 82

[Text] In a statement, India's permanent representative, M. Krishnan, said that reservations about Israel's credentials are the direct result of the refusal by Israel to comply with UN resolutions. He said it also reflects the brutal aggression by Israel against Lebanon and the Palestinians.

On a debate on Kampuchea, India told the General Assembly that it would have liked the world body allow the People's Republic of Kampuchea to join the United Nations. Kirshnan regretted that the United Nations does not seem to be ready yet to see the reality. India, he said, recognizes the Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea as the legal and legitimate government. The delegation of the so-called Democratic Kampuchea, he pointed out, is a delegation without a capital or a country. It represents a coalition which is none other than the universally discredited and condemned regime of Pol Pot.

The General Assembly had rejected a move initiated jointly by nearly a dozen countries, including India, to unseat the so-named Democratic Republic of Kampuchea. The voting was 29 in favor, 90 against and 26 abstentions.

HAQ COMMENTS TO NEWSMEN ON DPRK COOPERATION

BK261301 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 26 Oct 82

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq had another meeting with President Kim Il-song in Pyongyang yesterday afternoon. Later, talking to Pakistani newsmen, he said that the DPRK president had offered Pakistan his country's know-how and expertise in improving methods of rice cultivation and irrigation. The president said that he had accepted the offer. He said it would be useful for the two countries to cooperate in as many fields as possible. The president said he had suggested to President Kim Il-song that both countries should pay greater attention to trade and commerce. He said that Pakistan will soon begin exporting cement and fertilizers, which it used to purchase from the DPRK. He said that he had informed the Korean president that Pakistan was in a position to export cotton and fabrics to his country as well as other things.

He said one important outcome of his talks with President Kim Il-song was the decision by the two countries to sign an agreement for cooperation in the fields of trade, science and technology.

He said his visit to the DPRK will help in further developing friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries. The most important aspect of this visit is that it has promoted mutual understanding and friendship between President Kim Il-song and myself. He said personal contacts prove effective and helpful in consolidating individual and collective relationships.

Referring to the DPRK's stand on the Afghanistan issue, the president said that the DPRK, as a member of the Nonaligned Movement, adheres to the principles of the movement, supports its resolutions and shares the same concerns other countries have about the Afghanistan problem. However, he said, every country makes decisions according to its own situation, reservations and priorities.

About Kampuchea, he said that the DPRK's stand in this regard is well-known and it has opposed Vietnamese intervention in that country.

HAQ RETURNS FROM 10-DAY VISIT TO PRC, DPRK

BK261033 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 26 Oct 82

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq returned to Islamabad a short while ago after paying state visits to China and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. During his 10-day visit to these countries, the president had extensive and indepth talks with the leaders of the two countries covering major international and regional issues and matters of bilateral interest.

He was received at the airport by Chairman, Joint Chief of Staff Committee, Gen Mohammad Iqbal Khan, federal ministers, members of the Majlis-i-Shoora, local councillors, members of the diplomatic corps, prominent citizens and senior civil and military officials.

Comments on Visits

BK261632 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 26 Oct 82

[Text] President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said that his visits to China and the DPRK have been extremely successful. He was addressing a news conference at Islamabad Airport today on his return from a 10-day official visit to these two countries. The president said both China and the DPRK highly commend Pakistan's policies and effects, which aim at defending and consolidating regional and world peace and security. He said he felt both in China and the DPRK that these two countries have deep sentiments of affection and well-being for the people and Government of Pakistan.

About his visit to China, the president said the Chinese leaders want to further promote friendship with Pakistan, which has withstood all the tests of time. China is a trustworthy friend of Pakistan's and the roots of our relations reach from the top leaders to the common people. Asked about the setting up of a joint commission, the president said it aims to strengthen the friendship between the two countries at all levels and consolidate and formalize our relations. The setting up of the joint commission is a step toward providing a permanent base for relations between the two countries.

Referring to his visit to the DPRK, the president said he exchanged views with President Kim Il-song on international and bilateral matters and both countries have identical views on many international issues. He said that the unprecedented welcome accorded to him in Pyongyang reflected the great feelings of affection and well-being for Pakistan in the hearts of the Korean people. He said he was greatly impressed by the DPRK's progress, the key to which lies in their patriotism, self-confidence and discipline. He said our religion, Islam, also emphasizes these things, which are essential for progress.

Answering a question, the president said during his talks in Beijing, the Afghanistan issue came up for detailed discussion and China continues to support Pakistan's stand on this issue. He said as far the DPRK's stand on Afghanistan is concerned, that country is a very active member of the Nonaligned Movement. This movement has approved a clear-cut resolution on the Afghanistan issue which reflects the nonaligned countries' opinion and aspirations regarding this issue. There is no need for further clarification in this connection.

The president said that Pakistan wants to settle this issue on the basis of the four principles envisaged in resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conference Organization, the Nonaligned Movement and the UN General Assembly. The president emphasized that the Afghan people should be included in solving this issue. He said the Afghanistan issue is an international issue created by foreign military intervention and can only be solved through the withdrawal of foreign troops.

When asked about his forthcoming visit to New Delhi, the president said he will make a brief stopover in New Delhi while on his way to visit a few Southeast Asian countries, which will give him an opportunity to exchange views with Indian Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi. He said there is no fixed agenda for the talks. The meeting will be a further attempt in connection with the normalization of relations between India and Pakistan. He added that normalization of relations with India is the fundamental element of our foreign policy.

Answering a question on Kashmir, President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq said this issue can be solved within the framework of UN resolutions and in accordance with the spirit of the Simla Agreement.

About his forthcoming visit to the United States, the president said he is looking forward to his meeting and holding talks with President Reagan on the 7th of December. There is no agenda for talks with him but we will hold talks on bilateral and multilateral issues and all other issues of mutual concern.

DAILY WARNS AGAINST GOVERNMENT 'STATE OF SIEGE'

GF231427 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 14 Oct 82 p 4

[Editorial: "Of Terrorism and Terrorists"]

[Text] In the course of yesterday's debate in the Federal Council on the increasing incidence of armed violence in the country, the interior minister gave some details regarding terrorists and the efforts being made to counter this threat. The interior minister said that 650 persons accused of subversive acts against 95, out of which 21 were handed out convictions. He added that anti-terrorist squads had been formed, while some senior police officers had been sent abroad for advanced training.

The minister's speech invited more questions than it answered. By stating quite clearly that subversion was sponsored externally, a number of countries are implicated indirectly. The people would like to know the names, whether the government has raised this question in its bilateral ties with the states involved. Rather regrettably, the whole tone of the minister's address had an alarmist under-current which tended to give the impression as if a "state of siege" exists within the country. This was backed by a strong plea for a more modernised and better equipped police force.

It would be unfortunate if senior functionaries of the government got panicky and started having a siege mentality, which can only be harmful to themselves and the nation as a whole. The police in this country already enjoys wide-ranging powers of arrest, search and interrogation which are sustained by the laws of the land and a whole array of security agencies. In fact, more often than not, the common man of this country -- with no strings to pull and no wealth to bribe -- has to seek protection from the police itself! This was even stated by the president in so many words while relating the incident of a person who sought his intervention in a case of fraud.

The figure of 650 jailed terrorists seems to be rather high for a country where organised acts of sabotage are a relatively-recent phenomenon. Does 650 include only those who were directly involved in terrorism or those also who have been rounded up as accomplices or sympathisers? In its zeal to curb this growing menace the police may not be able to draw the line between actual perpetrators of terrorism and those who might have a political difference of opinion with the government.

The important thing to focus on in this situation is avoidance of hasty action or application of unrestrained force, where other methods could be more effective. Strengthening the police should not be done in a vacuum without mobilising public opinion. Such an approach would only be counter-productive and detract from the objectives which the government has set for itself in countering subversion. Additionally, whatever is done in the pursuit of this objective should be undertaken within the framework of the rule of law and norms of justice.

BRIEFS

TRADE WITH PRC -- The new president of the Bank of China has expressed the hope that trade and commerce between China and Pakistan will grow steadily in the years to come. He was speaking at a dinner held in his honor in Beijing by the representative of the National Bank of Pakistan in China. It was attended, besides bankers, by the ambassador of Pakistan in China. The National Bank of Pakistan was the first Pakistani bank to open a representative office in China. Trade between Pakistan and China touched the mark of $500 million per year recently. Pakistani exports to China are cotton, leather and textiles. China exports machineries, iron and steel, coal and a variety of other goods to Pakistan. [Text] [Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 28 Sep 82 BK]

OFFICIAL ON JAPANESE AID -- Japan has expressed its willingness to finance a number of projects in a variety of sectors in Pakistan. This was stated by Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission Dr Mahbubul Haq on his return to Islamabad after a week's visit to Japan. He described his talks with the Japanese foreign minister and senior officials as encouraging. Pakistan, he said, would get $158-million economic assistance during the current financial year. Negotiations for project assistance for the next financial year would be undertaken soon. Dr Mahbubul Haq said he also discussed the question of long-term Japanese aid commitment for Pakistan's sixth 5-year plan. The Japanese Government, he added, had given the assurance that it would undertake concrete steps to buy more Pakistani products. [Text] [Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 26 Oct 82 BK]

IRAQIS BOMB DEZFUL; 'MORE THAN 20' DEAD

LD261724 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Oct 82

[Text] On the eve of Hoseyn's 'ashura [anniversary of Hoseyn's death], mercenaries of Saddam's Ba'thist-Zionist regime launched an air raid on residential districts of the steadfast city of Dezful this morning. They attacked the city with air-to-ground missiles. Our correspondent from the Islamic Republic of Iran Voice and Vision at Dezful has dispatched a report concerning this, to which we draw your attention:

At 1130 the barbaric Saddamists attacked the martyrbearing and resistant city of Dezful once again and on the eve of 'ashura murdered some of Hoseyn's mourners. The people of Dezful, who were actively preparing themselves for tasu'a and 'ashura, heard a loud bang a few minutes before lunchtime. After this big bang, which shook the city, people rushed to the scene of the incident to help the victims. They revived Hoseyn's 'ashura by chanting the slogan "O Mohammad."

Relief work continues and, according to the latest report before the communication of this report, the number of wounded is 110; more than 20 are martyred. Most of the victims are women and children; a large number of houses, shops and cars were severely damaged in this incident.

[Signed] The Central News Unit, the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Dezful

Further Details

GF262738 Tehran IRNA in English 1710 GMT 26 Oct 82

[Text] Dezful, Oct 26 IRNA -- Twenty people were martyred and over 107 injured today during a brutal ground to ground long range missile attack of the Iraq Ba'thist forces on this southern city at 12:45 on the eve of mourning day of 'ashura (10th of Muharram) falling on Thursday.

According to the reports, the attack was made on the civil area and major target of the attack was busy Taleqani Avenue, in the heart of the city where the victims were doing their shopping.

The reports said that several houses and buildings were collapsed as a result of the attack and scores of people were still buried alive. The Muslim combatants were busy in digging out the victims.

The reports said that so far some dead bodies have been recovered, including one mother along with her baby.

Several hundreds of people gathered on the spot to help the victims who are mostly women and children. It is believed that some are still alive under the debris of the collapsed houses and buildings.

Search of the dead bodies was continued until the reports reached here at 15:30.

According to another report, about 50 houses had been completely damaged and 50 others partly. The missile attack was so powerful that at one place it created a big hole and caused the breaking of the window glasses which flew into the air. Its impact could be felt at the range of two kms from the actual target.

An old man was among the victims who lost two sons and one grandson and the whereabouts of other members of his family are not known. At one spot one baker, identified as Mansur Moshtaravi, who lost four members of his family was looking for his family members. Talking to the IRNA the baker said that "my faith in the Islamic revolution has now become stronger."

While the baker was looking for his family members he found a painting at one spot which was drawn by his 8-year-old sister. The painting, which was made by his sister, depicted the war scene and certain slogans praising the martyrs during the imposed war.

Musavi Message

LD261928 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Oct 82

[Excerpts] Following the air attack launched today by the mercenaries of the Zionist Ba'thist regime of Saddam against the residential parts of the resistant city of Dezful, carried out by aircraft of the aggressive Iraqi Army and by air-to-ground missiles, Mr Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, the prime minister, tonight sent a telephone message as follows:

[Begin recording] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Heroic citizens of Dezful, sisters and brothers:

Your heroic resistance over more than 2 years of barbarous onslaught by the pro-U.S. Saddamist regime is a cause for hope for our nation and for our country's zealous combatants. You are people who never bowed your heads to the fiery bullets of the shah's regime, and after the downfall of the shah you became the targets of the dastardly and murderous attacks of the Ba'thist army. But you have resisted.

Today, too, on the eve of the Husaynite 'ashura, the Saddamist regime, using its missiles and aircraft, turned you into targets in order to weaken, as they imagined in vain, the firm resolve of our intrepid combatants. However, our Islamic revolution has proved that in our country every time a man or woman is rolled in his blood hundreds of people rise up for battle.

You, heroic citizens, have now placed the oppressive enemy on the threshold of definite defeat. Today's bombardment of your city has demonstrated to all the world's peoples and those in the United Nations and in other international organizations who have any pretentions to peace that peace cannot be established in the region except through the destruction of Saddam's regime.

Saddam's latest crime shall make the slogan "War, war till victory" reverberate even more strongly in our nation. We are certain that our brave sons, who are faithful to Islam, shall avenge the pure blood of the martyrs of Dezful and other oppressed cities in Khuzestan, Ilam, Bakhtaran, Lorestan and Hamadan. With their telling blows they shall hold a new destiny for the Islamic region.

A salute and glory to you who, despite tragedy and destruction, have clutched at the rope of God, shouted the slogan "God is great" at the top of your voice, used your insight fully to detect the guilty hands of the superpowers in these crimes and have not forgotten to chant the slogan "Death to the United States."

Together with the imam of the era, may God Almighty hasten his esteemed advent, the imam of the nation and leader of the revolution and the great nation of Iran and your government of the Islamic Republic of Iran congratulate you and extend their condolences, brothers and sisters, on the martyrdom of your dear ones and hereby declare that we shall use all our capabilities to achieve the victory of our brave combatants on the front, God willing.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE NO 1,091

LD261722 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Oct 82

[Communique No 1,091 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. An exchange of fire continued yesterday on the country's western fronts and Islam's victorious combatants opened artillery, tank and katyusha fire on enemy positions and units, silencing their fire and preventing activities and movements of the Saddamist forces and inflicting losses and casualties on them.

During the successful operations on 23 October, Islam's heroes and selfless combatants dispatched patrol groups and opened intense artillery fire on Iraq's Qazanfar and Sayyid Sadiq Garrisons, inflicting such heavy losses and casualties on the criminal Saddamist hirelings that most buildings in the Qazanfar Garrison were destroyed; their ammunition hut also was set ablaze. The sound of intense explosions, flames, smoke and the movements of Iraqi ambulances in the region were indicative of the enormity of the casualties, the numerous dead and wounded among the Iraqis. During these operations, large numbers of vehicles belonging to the Iraqi mercenaries together with their servicemen were destroyed.

We have not yet received accurate information as to the losses and casualties suffered by the Sayyid Sadiq Garrison in Iraq. During these successful operations, Islam's combatants, after carrying out their mission, all returned safely to their bases.

On the southern fronts, Islam's victorious combatants defended the positions controlled by them and returned the fire of the Saddamist mercenaries, thus consolidating their positions even more. During the exchange of fire on the Khorramshahr front, the gendarmerie combatants retaliated by opening fire on enemy positions and units and inflicted losses and casualties on enemy troops.

At 1245 today, the city of Dezful was subjected to a rocket attack by the Saddamist criminals, as a result of which a number of our dear compatriots in that city were either martyred or wounded; a number of houses also were destroyed.

The city of Abadan also was subjected to heavy arms fire by the aggressive Iraqi Ba'thist mercenaries yesterday, resulting in the destruction of a number of houses and stores and injury to one (?child) in the city's stadium region.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

AFP REPORT ON CONTRIBUTION TO IAEA REBUTTED

LD262028 Tehran IRNA in English 1913 GMT 26 Oct 82

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 26 IRNA -- The Iran Atomic Energy Organisation today refuted the reports of French news agency, AFP, in which it quoted the international atomic energy organisation official who said that Iran did not formally convey its offer to the agency to cover the U.S. contribution following that country's withdrawal from the agency.

The U.S. announced early this month that it will withdraw from the agency and stop payment of its contribution following the ouster of the Zionist regime from that world body. A recent report from Vienna, Austria, quoting officials has claimed that Iran has not delivered an official note to the agency. The report has further added that the Islamic Republic of Iran had not paid its membership contribution for 1980 to the agency as well as the fees for 1981 and 1982.

Referring to the statement made by the Iranian Majlis speaker, 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, on the subject of suspension of membership of the Zionist regime from the agency and the U.S. Government threat on suspension of its share to the agency, the statement said that the materialisation of the proposal made by Iran depended on the factor that the U.S. officially informed the agency's authorities of its withdrawal from the agency and refusal to pay its membership fee.

The statement further added the Islamic Republic Government, through its representative in the agency, had informed its officials of the readiness of Iran to pay a sum of one million dollars to the agency in case the U.S. stopped paying its share to the agency.

Therefore, it added, claims made by imperialist news agencies quoting the agency officials was a plot to discredit the Islamic Republic.

However, such false claims proved righteousness of the positions adopted by Iran, while degraded enemies of humanity.

As for the payment of Iran's membership fee to the organisation, the statement said that members payment to the agency was decided by each country's per capita income. Under the former regime, in an effort to draw a prosperous picture of the country, it was boasted that Iran's per capita income was higher and correct figure for per capita income was not given. Following the victory of the Islamic revolution of Iran, the Iranian Government has requested the agency to study the issue and decide on its membership fee according to the real figures, so that the membership fees would be paid accordingly.

In another part, the statement referred to a recent proposal made by President 'Ali Khamene'i in a letter to the chairman of the Non-aligned Movement, Cuban President Fidel Castro, concerning establishment of a special fund to (?bring) international organisations out of U.S. domination. President Khamene'i suggested that members of the movement should (?raise a fund so the U.S. would not be able to) threaten these organisations by withdrawal of its financial support.

NATEQ-NURI STATEMENT ON 10 DEC COUNCIL ELECTIONS

LD261226 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1000 GMT 26 Oct 82

["Text" of statement issued on 26 October by the interior minister on the 10 December elections to the Council of Experts and Majlis midterm elections]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. This is to inform the dear compatriots that, in line with Article 13 of the regulations governing elections to the Council of Experts, candidates for the council may, in person or through their legal representatives, report to the governor's office of each province from 7-13 November to declare their candidacy and complete their application forms. They should submit 5 photocopies of their identity cards and 12 newly-taken x photographs. Candidates for the council must possess the following qualifications:

A -- Religious reputation and moral virtue:

B -- Complete knowledge of the principles of ejtehad (independent judgment in the interpretation of Islamic law] as well as a record of education at prominent religious seminaries, to identify individuals competent to act within the context that Shi'ites should emulate a living eminent religious authority in matters of law [marja'iyat] and of leadership;

C -- Political and social outlook and familiarity with current issues;

D -- Belief in the order of the Islamic Republic of Iran;

E -- No political or social criminal record;

Note 1: Candidates for membership on the Council of Experts must produce certifying letters from prominent professors of nonreligious subjects signifying their eligibility at the time of registration;

Note 2: Those confirmed, explicitly or implicitly, by the leader as mojtahed [Shi'ite clergymen who may issue authoritative opinions in matters of Islamic law] as well as those known among their constituencies' ulema as being proficient in the matter of ejtehad are not required to submit any letter of certification;

Note 3: Conditions concerning residence, birth and constituency are not necessarily binding in the case of candidates and voters. Needless to say, after the expiration of the set period applicants will not be registered.

[Signed] Interior Minister 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri